

Why Is Planning Such an Important Part of PDSA?

Learning Objectives

- Discuss why predictions are critical to PDSA cycles.
- Explain how studying and predicting relate to each other within a PDSA cycle.

Description: Plan. Do. Study Act. All four are necessary to complete a PDSA cycle. In this IHI Open School Short, Improvement Advisor David Williams explains why he thinks planning is such a valuable component of any learning cycle.

Watch the video at <https://youtu.be/S49qCzv9KuI> or [read the transcript](#).

Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think some people skip the “Plan” step of a PDSA cycle?
2. Think of the last PDSA cycle you ran. Did you have a stated prediction at the beginning? How was that helpful to the learning?
3. Have you ever run a PDSA cycle that didn’t include every step? Was it a successful test? Why or why not?